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**Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**
San José, 19-21 February 2014

# Draft Report

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## Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in San José, from 19 to 21 February 2014

## I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 56/119, on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, the General Assembly decided that each congress should be preceded by regional preparatory meetings; and also decided to call future congresses United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which had met in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006, stressed the importance of regional preparatory meetings as a key preparatory tool for the congresses and as a conduit to incorporate regional concerns and perspectives into their preparation. The Group noted that despite globalization and the increasingly transboundary nature of criminality, different regions of the world continued to harbour different concerns, which they wanted to see properly reflected in the consideration of various topics by the congresses (E/CN.15/2007/6, para. 23).

3. In its resolution 67/184, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the

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least developed countries in those meetings and in the Thirteenth Congress itself, in accordance with past practice and in consultation with Member States. The General Assembly encouraged the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress.

4. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress and for the Congress in a timely manner, and invited Member States to be actively involved in that process. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered a draft discussion guide at its twenty-second session. In its resolution 68/185 of 17 October 2013, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the draft discussion guide and requested the Secretary-General to finalize the discussion guide in a timely manner, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission, as well as additional comments and feedback from Member States, in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress to be held as early as possible in 2014. The final discussion guide (A/CONF.222/PM.1) was issued in July 2013.

5. In its resolution 67/184, the General Assembly also encouraged Governments to undertake preparations for the Thirteenth Congress at an early stage and by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees. It urged participants in the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Congress. In its resolution 68/185, the General Assembly urged Governments to invite their representatives to do so and to actively participate in the regional preparatory meetings, where appropriate.

## II. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice agreed that the action-oriented recommendations presented below, reflecting the Latin American and Caribbean perspective, should be considered when preparing the draft declaration to be submitted to the Congress.

7. The Meeting stressed that a crucial factor for the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement and criminal justice policies is inter-agency coordination.

8. The Meeting also underlined the significance of comprehensive and inclusive national programmes of implementation of crime prevention and criminal justice policies, including not only security, justice and maintenance of the rule of law, but also promotion of peace and social inclusion.

9. The Meeting also noted that the excessive publicity of criminal cases at the pretrial stage may have a detrimental impact on the protection of fundamental human rights (e.g. presumption of innocence), as well as on the protection of minors participating in criminal proceedings.

10. The Meeting recommended the elaboration of a model Penal Code for the harmonization of national laws with a view to promote international cooperation to combat various forms of crime, as well as for the convergence of applicable criminal sanctions.

11. The Meeting stressed the desirability of encouraging the establishment of mechanisms for alternative justice (mediation) and pretrial services in order to serve the interests of victims; strengthening the principle of presumption of innocence in criminal proceedings; facilitating the rapid reintegration of offenders by bringing them to justice in the eyes of society; and avoiding prison overcrowding.

12. The Meeting also stressed the need to establish a linkage between restorative justice and the justice deserved by the victim through the application of support models and flexible mechanisms ensuring observance of the human rights of victims and, at the same time, to seek the application of alternative penalties for offenders.

13. Furthermore, the Meeting highlighted the need to strengthen criminal justice systems, the training of officials and forensic science institutions in order to ensure the scientific reliability of criminal investigations and their evidential basis, avoiding impunity and ensuring respect for the human rights of the persons involved.

## A. Substantive items

### 1. Item 3 of the agenda of the Congress: Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development

14. The Meeting affirmed that the deliberations of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice should be guided by the consensus reached at the Twelfth Congress with regard to the necessity of respecting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the prevention of crime and the administration of, and access to, justice, including criminal justice.

15. The Meeting reaffirmed its conviction that sustainable development and the rule of law were mutually reinforcing, as stated in paragraph 7 of the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels.

16. The Meeting also recalled that long-term sustainable economic and social development and the establishment of a functioning, efficient, effective and humane criminal justice system had a positive influence on each other, as stated in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, which was signed at the Twelfth Congress.

17. In that context, the Meeting recalled the Declaration of San Salvador on Citizen Security in the Americas, adopted in 2011, which stated that "public security conditions are improved through full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as by means of the promotion of education, culture, health, and economic and social development" and drew attention to "the need to promote and strengthen long-term and comprehensive state policies for public security that fully ensure the protection and promotion of human rights, with an emphasis on addressing the causes of crime and violence."

18. In that regard, the Meeting underscored that the promotion of development, the combating of poverty and social inequality and social public policies in such areas as education and health, together with social participation, contributed to crime prevention and the strengthening of security and the rule of law.

19. With respect to the relationship between the imperative of the rule of law and national development, security, due process and respect for human rights were closely related and mutually reinforcing. The criminal justice system played an increasingly important role in upholding the rule of law and in the strengthening of national security.

20. The Meeting recognized the importance of security, justice, human rights and the rule of law as enabling conditions and an integral part of sustainable and equitable growth. The Meeting also recognized the centrality of crime prevention and criminal justice issues for the rule of law and, consequently, for social and economic development. In this perspective, the Meeting stressed the need for including in the ongoing process of formulation of the post-2015 Development Agenda separate goals on the rule of law, security and human rights, including crime prevention and criminal justice elements; good governance and freedom from violence.

21. The Meeting recalled that crime prevention programmes are well engrained in most countries and have focused at the individual, community and/or interrelationship levels with varying degrees of efficacy. In this regard, it stressed the importance of further promoting the use of evaluation tools and new methodologies to measure the effectiveness of crime prevention programmes at the national level and encourage their replication in the region, including the development of indicators on, and measuring, rule of law, good governance, violence, crime prevention and criminal justice.

22. The Meeting further recalled that the preservation and maintenance of peace, order and human rights should be considered a fundamental priority. In this respect, every effort should be made to prevent violent conflict, including through mediation, conflicts resolution and restorative justice programmes, in a spirit of solidarity and mutual understanding.

23. The Meeting recommended that greater emphasis should be placed on the role of education and mentoring at all education levels, in order to instil shared values on the importance of the rule of law and the protection of human rights and contribute to crime prevention.

24. The Meeting recommended to include elements of crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law into the United Nations Common Country Assessments, United Nations Development Assistance

Frameworks (UNDAF), UNDAF Action Plans and workplans, Country Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) and any other development assistance frameworks. The meeting further recommended that, considering the close link between crime prevention and criminal justice and sustainable development, indicators on security and justice be included in the human development index in order to encourage States to enhance efforts in this regard.

25. Recognizing the importance of data collection and analysis, the Meeting also recommended that States develop evidence-based rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice reform strategies, drawing on national gender- and age-disaggregated crime and victimization data and statistics, and include such strategies in national development plans and national budgets, by setting specific targets and objectives of crime reduction, reintegration of offenders and victims, and crime prevention.

26. The Meeting urged countries in the region to include in national plans on gender and the advancement of women, measures to address women's access to criminal justice.

27. The Meeting also recognized the need of Member States to integrate children's issues into their overall rule of law efforts, to pay particular attention to the issue of child justice and to take into consideration applicable United Nations standards and norms for the treatment of children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the criminal law, particularly those who are deprived of their liberty, and child victims and witnesses of crimes, taking into account also the gender, social circumstances and development needs of such children. It was also recommended that Member States develop and implement a comprehensive child justice policy, with allocation of adequate resources.

28. The Meeting recognized the importance of strengthening the capacity of law enforcement officials to address new forms of crimes and new modus operandi of criminal groups and highlighted the need to improve law enforcement and criminal justice responses to related challenges.

29. The Meeting acknowledged that prevention is a principal tool in strategies geared towards addressing transnational organized crime and based on programmes of social and economic inclusion to reduce social inequalities, hunger and poverty, especially in the most vulnerable groups such as youth, children, indigenous peoples and groups of African descent. The Meeting recommended that, when developing and implementing national comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies, States in the region consider measures to include in, review or reform the informal justice systems and their role in providing access to justice and redress for people, especially indigenous people and other vulnerable groups. The Meeting also underlined the need to devote adequate financial resources to implement effectively crime prevention and criminal justice programmes, policies and strategies, including corrections and aftercare programmes.

30. The Meeting recommended the creation of a computerized system in all criminal courts to enable participants in criminal proceedings to follow at every stage their criminal cases.

31. The Meeting recommended that an integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice should include the judicial authorities of every country in the

elaboration of crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, particularly in the case of minors in conflict with the law, women victims of crime and vulnerable persons.

32. The Meeting recommended promoting the formulation of comprehensive State policies addressing the various components of the system for the administration of justice: the control and prevention of crime, the prevention of violence, policies for rehabilitation and social reintegration and support for victims of violence. In order to facilitate the elaboration of such policies, it recommended promoting processes of citizen and community participation with a view to long-term agreements with political and social actors and between the executive, judicial and legislative powers of the State.

33. The Meeting proposed the elaboration of a policy on the prevention of violence and crime with special focus on young persons, providing such persons with new opportunities and thus avoiding their being drawn in to crime, particularly drug-related crime. It recommended States to make such opportunities available both through formal and informal education and through the effective use of leisure activities and initiatives in the areas of sport, culture, art and recreation to facilitate the greatest possible integration and inclusion of young persons in society; to promote techniques for the mediation and peaceful resolution of conflicts with a view to fostering a culture of peace, in such a way that individuals learn to face and resolve their problems through communication and dialogue, thus avoiding possible situations leading to violence, particularly in community settings; to analyse and debate the need to give prison officials and agents the same status as armed civil security officers with the aim of enhancing the professional profile of work in the prison service, and to offer careers in the prison system in order to enhance status, stability, continuity and a sense of institutional belonging among prison officials and prison staff in general.

34. The Meeting invited States to allocate sufficient resources to ensure the status, training and professional qualifications of prison staff in general, basing their activities on the fullest possible observance of human and gender rights while ensuring compliance with all related resolutions.

35. The Meeting recommended:

- The creation of a specialized Youth Criminal Justice System with special emphasis on addressing the treatment and management of young persons in conflict with the law;
- The creation of a system of diversion and alternative mechanisms for dealing with young persons who commit minor offences;
- The exploration of alternatives to incarceration with particular emphasis on therapeutic court-based interventions such as juvenile drug treatment courts and youth and juvenile courts;
- Exploring avenues to achieve meaningful juvenile justice reform;
- Adhering to internationally agreed standards, international Treaties and Conventions such as the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child in respect of the adjudication of child-related matters;
- Promoting citizen security programmes which can address:

(a) The reduction of the levels of homicides and other serious crimes, the reduction of injuries caused by firearms with special emphasis on youth firearm related violence;

(b) Child abuse and maltreatment;

(c) Domestic violence; and

(d) Juvenile delinquency;

- The promotion of alternative crime prevention programmes and interventions, including programmes which:

(a) Focus on the empowerment of young people through sport, literacy and mentorship. In this regard, mentorship can be promoted at the national level or instituted in various institutions such as national security agencies;

(b) Support the establishment of police youth clubs as a mechanism to target youths at the primary and secondary levels;

(c) Gear these interventions towards enhancing the psycho-social resilience and is also aimed at guiding them to become more productive and law-abiding citizens.

37 bis. Access to justice and the imperative of due process, together with respect for human rights, resulted in the creation of a public defence system with the requisite capacities to fulfil its mission, namely the provision of a high-quality defence to any person accused of a crime, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable members of society.

Accordingly, the democratic State must ensure that all persons brought before the criminal justice system should be furnished with the information that they needed for the due exercise of their rights and with qualified assistance allowing them to assert those rights, thus providing a guarantee of their access to justice.

In the pursuit of those aims, progress should be made towards the independence of the public defence system as a guarantee of access to justice, supporting the work being done at the regional level.

In addition to improving access to cost-free and expert legal assistance provided by public defenders, special attention should be paid to the most vulnerable sectors of society such as women, youth, migrants and indigenous communities.

It was important that all States in the region should, for their part, promote the participation of public defenders in the inter-American human rights system so that the right to a technical defence was exercised and guaranteed throughout proceedings, from the first hearing in a case brought against a person in the national court system until, where appropriate, the passing of a sentence by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

**Workshop 1. Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders**

36. The Meeting recommended that the education of persons deprived of their freedom shall be considered as an inescapable obligation of States, and unrestricted access to the various instances of formal education must be guaranteed to all inmates, without distinction of any kind, as well as the establishment of positive incentives for those who study in prison.

37. The Meeting urged Member States to reaffirm the need for both preventive and punitive detention to be understood as ultima ratio measures, proposing that States adopt effective mechanisms to ensure promptness of criminal trials, the use of measures alternative to imprisonment, and the uniform and unrestricted application of the international human rights principles by the judicial authorities in the imposition of freedom restrictive measures, with the aim to keep incarceration rates compatible with the capabilities of the system.

38. The Meeting encouraged countries to share information and good practices of promising reintegration projects of prisoners into society, including through education at all levels and work in prisons; continue working on the admission process, selection, training and evaluation of the staff that works in the prisons with a rehabilitation and social reintegration approach; and exchange views on architectural models of prisons with a rehabilitation and reintegration approach, especially taking into account the specific needs of women and children in prison.

39. The Meeting recognized that prison administrations in many countries are faced with challenges posed by women prisoners, including pregnant women or women prisoners with young children and Member States were invited to adopt relevant policies and measures in line with the 2010 United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules). Recognizing the specific problem of foreign women prisoners, who are particularly disadvantaged for a number of reasons as they usually receive less family visits and support from their relatives, and who may have difficulties in understanding the language or adapting to the culture, and recognizing that women with children or care duties for elder or disabled relatives may be in a more difficult situation as they may ignore what is happening to their families while they are awaiting trial or serving a sentence abroad, the Meeting recommended that Member States develop policy guidance, as appropriate, on how to deal with such cases in line with the Bangkok Rules.

40. The Meeting supported the prioritization of awareness-raising and public participation for the identification of solutions to prison overcrowding and effective measures for the social reintegration and rehabilitation of offenders for the prevention of reoffending. Furthermore, the Meeting invited Member States to promote the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, and ensure compliance with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should only be used as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention

for children, and to provide support and services for children deprived of their liberty prior and after release in order to promote their rehabilitation and reintegration into the community.

41. The Meeting recommended:

Recognition of the issue of women as victims of violence in all its forms, in both the public and private spheres, as a phenomenon of organized crime and international criminality;

Promotion of the recognition and criminalization of all forms of violence against women;

Application of a policy to ensure the protection of victims, prevent the revictimization of minors and women and ensure reparation, in accordance with the requirements of due diligence;

Drawing the attention of civil society and the media to the importance and relevance of using alternatives to imprisonment in the case of children and young people. It was recommended that the successful outcomes of restorative justice programmes be highlighted and that more resources be invested in programmes that had had a proven impact in reducing recidivism;

Encouragement of Member States to establish specialized positions for judges, prosecutors and public defenders duly qualified in the administration of sentences within the juvenile criminal justice system;

Establishment of time periods for the application of alternative measures to imprisonment in the area of juvenile crime;

Strengthening of technical cooperation provided to Member States for the creation of national regulatory frameworks that are in line with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

## 2. Item 4 of the agenda of the Congress: International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime

42. The Meeting recommended that the Congress call upon Member States to adopt, in accordance with their national legislation and international obligations arising from the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), and its protocols, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), flexible and practical approaches when cooperating through extradition and mutual legal assistance and other modalities of international cooperation, such as international cooperation for purposes of confiscation, including asset recovery and cooperation for the detection and fight of money-laundering, joint investigations and law enforcement cooperation. The Meeting recalled the importance of the aforementioned conventions in enhancing international cooperation in criminal matters.

43. The Meeting recommended that Member States pay particular attention to the fight against corruption and to addressing its links to transnational organized crime, and other forms of serious crime. In this regard, the Meeting highlighted the importance of the Review of Implementation Mechanism of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the complementarities of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols

thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the United Nations Convention against Trafficking of Illicit Drugs. The Meeting further invited States in the region to increase capacity and strengthen skills of national authorities on issues pertaining to cybercrime and financial investigation units through specialized training.

44. Within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Meeting also recommended that national models of cooperation be disseminated to enable the planning of public policy for countering corruption and money-laundering.

45. The Meeting recommended that UNODC, in accordance with its mandate, continue to provide technical assistance to countries in the region, upon request, to increase capacity and strengthen skills of central authorities and practitioners on international cooperation in criminal matters, especially extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for purposes of confiscation, including asset recovery, and cooperation to combat money-laundering. The Meeting also urged UNODC to collect and disseminate, in cooperation with existing national institutions with expertise in the field of surveys and statistical data on criminal justice issues, information about national institutional frameworks and legal requirements for international cooperation. UNODC should also examine ways and means of facilitating the establishment of secure channels of communication among central authorities and the exchange of information between States concerned.

46. In order to more effectively implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the United Nations Convention against Trafficking of Illicit Drugs and the 18 universal legal instruments against terrorism, the Meeting recommended that Member States should review national legal frameworks and practice on mutual legal assistance and extradition, with the aim to harmonize such laws with relevant international instruments, and establish competent national central authorities that are adequately funded and staffed to effectively formulate and respond to requests for extradition and mutual legal assistance.

47. The Meeting invited States that have not yet done so to incorporate into their national legislations crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes, in accordance with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the Convention on the Non-applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity, in order to set the basis for the negotiation of a multilateral treaty on mutual legal assistance and extradition for crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide.

48. The Meeting recommended the creation, promotion and strengthening by governments and international bodies of specialized networks of prosecutors and police as an effective tool for combating organized crime, violence against women and environmental crime, among others, together with active international cooperation and the strengthening of technical and economic cooperation at the regional and international levels with the aim of preventing and countering the infiltration of justice systems by transnational organized crime.

49. Member States recalled the humanitarian character of the mechanism for the transfer of sentenced persons as a means of assisting the reintegration of such

persons into the family and social environment, thereby preventing reoffending and the commission of future crimes. In that context, Member States highlighted the importance of expanding the network of international agreements for the transfer of sentenced persons and urged the Thirteenth Congress to explore ways and means of promoting the wider application of that mechanism to persons serving custodial sentences.

50. Member States proposed that the Thirteenth Congress should encourage the use of electronic media to expedite detention orders and other communications for the purposes of extradition, in particular through INTERPOL, through legislative amendments and through the conclusion of bilateral or regional instruments.

51. Member States proposed that the Thirteenth Congress should encourage the creation of regional networks of prosecutors with a view to more effective action to counter organized crime, along the lines of the Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime (REFCO) and the West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors (WACAP), with the aim of exploring the possible value of amalgamating those two networks in the future.

52. In view of the lack of regionally coordinated policies and strategies that currently characterized efforts to combat transnational organized crime, it was proposed that criminal law and criminal procedure be harmonized and that resources and capacities be consolidated with respect to judges, public defenders, prosecutors, police officers and experts, especially with regard to training and advanced technology, in order to provide a rapid response through specialized units with access to information relevant to organized crime prevention and control, and that regional forums and other mechanisms be established in order to ensure an efficient and effective response.

53. Member States proposed that, throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, harmonized procedures be introduced to ensure the efficient and expeditious processing of mutual legal assistance and extradition requests, in order to achieve the aims pursued.

54. Furthermore, the Meeting recommended:

- Increased collaboration in the area of mutual legal assistance and extradition and to develop protocols, laws and procedures to allow for more effective and efficient extradition and mutual assistance;
- The promotion of joint investigations and the sharing of information and evidence to address transnational organized crime so that even if perpetrators cannot be prosecuted in one country, the network can be disrupted in another by the prosecution of the crime group in the other country;
- The promotion of joint training of officials involved in the fight against human trafficking;
- The institution of targeted and joint public awareness programmes between source and destination countries as preventive measures for crimes such as human trafficking;
- The creation of training opportunities for judicial officers and prosecutors in collaboration with our regional and international partners;

- The development of Memoranda of Understanding and bilateral and multilateral agreements to facilitate action to combat transnational organized crime;
- The strengthening of reciprocal witness protection programmes to protect victims of human trafficking and other witnesses to transnational organized crime.

**Workshop 2. Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims**

55. The Meeting urged Member States to work in the development of a uniform reference for the tipification, prosecution and prevention of the crime of trafficking that allow to combat this crime effectively in accordance with the specific international instruments and best practices, whilst promoting the configuration of the illicit without consideration of the victim's consent, and the creation of specialized offices for their rescue and accompanying.

56. The Meeting also urged Member States to work in the development of a model of comprehensive care for victims of the crime of Trafficking in Persons, which should be specialized, with a differential and cross-sectional approach in order to take into account the various way by which a victim can be affected.

57. The Meeting called upon Member States to intensify the exchange of information to permit identification of criminal organizations, their mobility and transnational modus operandi in the region.

58. The Meeting urged Member States to encourage the adoption of regulatory mechanisms with the aim to prohibit the publication of notices that promote sex offer or make explicit or implicit reference to the request of people for sex trade, as well as the creation of monitoring and control agencies needed for this purpose, in order to prevent the crime of trafficking in persons for the purposes of sexual exploitation and to collaborate in the gradual elimination of the various forms of discrimination against women.

59. The Meeting recommends that States should:

- Bring national legislation into line with the international mandate for an integrated approach to the crime of trafficking in persons;
- Strengthen regional and international coordination to provide assistance to victims of trafficking in persons by ensuring the restitution of their rights: (a) regularization of immigration status, (b) protection, (c) safe return and (d) reintegration and integration;
- Improve cooperation to promote information exchange in order to ensure greater protection for victims and prosecution and punishment of the crime of trafficking in persons.

60. The Meeting welcomed the recommendation made by the General Assembly in October 2013 that 30 July should be designated World Day against Trafficking in Persons, and urged that activities relating to that subject should be promoted.

61. The Meeting proposed that a protocol should be drawn up on the provision of comprehensive care for victims of trafficking, which should have a specialized,

cross-cutting and targeted approach reflecting the various ways in which victims might be affected.

62. The Meeting recommends that States should:

- Work on the development of a uniform standard for the criminalization, prosecution and prevention of the crime of trafficking in the countries of Latin America, enabling effective action against transnational organized crime;
- Work on the development of a model of comprehensive care for victims of trafficking in persons, which should have a specialized, cross-cutting and targeted approach, reflecting the various ways in which a victim might be affected, and which should contribute to the successful prosecution of the perpetrator;
- Strengthen cooperation and exchange of good practices in programmes for the care, protection and orderly return of victims;
- Redouble intelligence efforts and increase information exchange facilitating the identification of victims of trafficking, their links with criminal organizations and the transnational mobility and modus operandi of such organizations in the region.

### 3. Item 5 of the agenda of the Congress: Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime

63. The Meeting recommended that strategies and techniques should be formulated and developed to combat organized crime, establishing practical targets aimed at disbanding organizations, convicting their members and confiscating the proceeds of their criminal activities. Those strategies and techniques should include special training for officials, the infiltration of criminal organizations, the restructuring of institutions and, above all, the elimination of legal or regulatory obstacles.

64. The Meeting recommended that States should:

- Harmonize their legislation in a way that focused on criminal and procedural laws to tackle organized crime and established minimum penalties for such offences as arms trafficking, unlawful association, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, money-laundering, trading in influence and corruption; and
- Introduce criminal liability for legal persons; region-wide arrest warrants; undercover investigators; international confiscation of goods; lifting of bank secrecy; sharing of evidence; and a unified register of criminals in the region at both hemisphere and international level. It was also necessary to strengthen cross-border surveillance and protection for victims and witnesses on the basis of common migration agreements.

65. The Meeting recommended that governments must institute measures to create a secure and resilient cyber environment, with a view to deterring terrorist activity which can be conducted via the Internet and social media. These measures include the implementation of an overarching governance framework, the enactment of appropriate cybercrime legislation which addresses, inter alia, the investigation,

criminalization and prosecution of offences related to computer crime and cybercrime and to awareness-raising among all stakeholders (government, business, academia, civil society and citizens) of their roles and responsibilities in establishing a secure ICT environment. The Meeting further highlighted the importance of continuing work within the framework of the Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice with a focus on establishing international cooperation mechanisms for preserving and obtaining electronic evidence, and which takes into account the need to respect human rights, privacy, freedom of expression and association, access to knowledge and the presumption of innocence.

66. The Meeting recommended:

- The implementation of an overarching national governance framework;
- The enactment of appropriate cybercrime legislation which addresses, inter alia, the investigation, criminalization and prosecution of offences related to computer crime and cybercrime;
- The undertaking of awareness-raising among all stakeholders (government, business, academia, civil society and citizens) of their roles and responsibilities in establishing a secure ICT environment; and
- The reaffirmation of the commitment or re-affirmation of countries to cooperate and collaborate at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and in conjunction with relevant international organizations to address this issue.

67. The Meeting also stressed the importance of continuing work within the framework of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as a contribution to the negotiation of an international instrument on combating cybercrime, with a focus on establishing flexible international cooperation mechanisms for preserving and obtaining electronic evidence and taking into account the need to respect human rights, privacy, freedom of expression and association, access to knowledge and the presumption of innocence.

68. It was essential that the countries of the region carried out regulatory harmonization in order to allow for specific international cooperation focused on cybercrime as a form of transnational crime. Such harmonization should take place at the following levels:

- Substantive level — the countries of the region should classify the different forms of cybercrime to facilitate international cooperation and, in particular, extradition on the basis of the principle of dual criminality;
- Procedural level — rules should be established on jurisdiction and competence for the prosecution of cybercrime with respect to the States concerned;
- Administrative level — the obligations of States, and of public and private entities in particular, should be established with regard to preserving electronic data for a period long enough to allow their use during legal proceedings;
- Information technology level — the confidentiality and integrity of systems, networks and electronic data should be established and a glossary created of cybercrime terminology with which criminal justice officers might be unfamiliar.

84 bis. Given that various platforms already exist for exchanging experiences in order to improve the prevention and prosecution of crime, both at the governmental and law enforcement levels, through bodies such as INTERPOL and Ameripol, it was recommended that the commitment to continue strengthening international cooperation in the fight against national and transnational organized crime and corruption and terrorism was maintained at the multilateral (United Nations), regional (Organization of American States) and bilateral levels, in accordance with international law.

84 ter. The involvement of national customs authorities, in their role as public border authorities, in actively combating transnational crime, together with police authorities and criminal prosecution authorities, was recommended.

84 quater. It was also recommended that international norms be incorporated into national legislation in order to improve procedures relating to trafficking in persons and the smuggling of undocumented persons. In addition, priority should be given to the global fight against terrorism by ratifying the 12 conventions of the United Nations and the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism.

Finally, it was suggested that the following key elements of crime prevention and criminal prosecution be strengthened and improved:

- Training;
- Inter-institutional cooperation;
- Exchange of information and good practices;
- Meetings focused on specific subjects, such as criminal matters;
- Ongoing criminological analysis of criminal phenomena;
- Maintenance of a platform for consultation on crime in the region.

### Workshop 3. Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation

69. The Meeting identified as priorities for the Latin American and Caribbean region the following forms of new and emerging forms of transnational crime: cybercrime, trafficking in cultural property, trafficking in organs, environmental crime and fraudulent use of documents for smuggling of migrants purposes. In this regard, it was recommended that Member States develop criminal research and methodologies on new forms of crime; encourage measurement instruments that lead to better public policies aimed at inhibiting emerging forms of transnational organized crime; identify the nature and profile of perpetrators, the socioeconomic and structural drivers of such forms of crime, and the extent to which new and emerging forms of crime are facilitated by corruption.

70. The Meeting also identified as an emerging challenge for law enforcement and criminal justice authorities the rapid increase of incidents of homicide, femicide, kidnappings and extortion and called upon States in the region to take appropriate measures to address this phenomenon in the most effective manner.

71. Trafficking in cultural property was viewed as a new, emerging form of crime, even though many Latin American countries had suffered the pillaging of such property for many years. Despite that fact, many such countries had in place no registries proving ownership of their cultural property. The principles of burden of proof and possessor in good faith, as well as the failure to treat such conduct as a crime, made it more difficult to recover cultural property that had been illegally removed from a country. In order to combat such crimes, it was proposed that the Assembly promote the following measures among its Member States: establish more complete controls in their national customs areas; establish more efficient mechanisms of legal cooperation; provide an expeditious response to requests for legal assistance; request UNESCO to take a more active role in such matters and to foster international agreements on the recovery and repatriation of cultural property; and implement guidelines on crime prevention and criminal justice responses to trafficking in cultural property (as adopted by UNODC in January 2014), in particular those relating to national registries.

## 4. Item 6 of the agenda of the Congress: National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice

72. The Meeting recognized the need for public participation in understanding local crime problems and traditions and devising solutions to strengthen security and justice. In this connection, the Meeting warmly advocated action to engage with young people in truly consultative and participatory processes by drawing on them, in particular those at risk for crime and victimization, as agents of positive change and active actors in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.

73. The Meeting invited Member States to devote additional resources to crime prevention programmes. Moreover, Member States were called upon to review good practices in designing and implementing effective crime prevention strategies, plans and programmes, at both the national and municipal levels, that ensure social inclusion and enable the involvement of all circles of society (civil society, private sector, academia and the media) in strengthening the performance of the criminal justice system, as well as the services to be provided to the concerned communities.

74. The Meeting also recognized the relevance of strengthening the capacities of police services to perform the functions of proximity police and community police that work closely with citizens in identifying solutions for the prevention of crime and violence, in particular domestic violence, road violence and violence in vulnerable communities. Furthermore, the Meeting highlighted the importance of taking effective measures to prevent and combat the use of firearms as a means of reducing the number of homicides in the region, including through the development and conduct of special campaigns designed to eliminate illicit use of firearms by civilians. The Meeting also called upon States in the region to regulate and reduce "triggers" of crime such as alcohol and drug use from a comprehensive public health perspective.

75. The Meeting called upon States to integrate alternative and restorative justice systems (e.g. addiction treatment centres, shelters for victims of domestic violence) for more acceptance of such systems by the community. Member States were also called to support civil society, in particular youth organizations, in the region, to become more involved in crime prevention, and to provide training to such organizations in the area of combating organized crime. In this regard, the Meeting

favoured the design of campaigns and workshops to encourage the public to report and follow-up on crime incidents when victimized; the design of mechanisms for citizens to report and follow up on specific cases of corruption or violations of the law; and the design of campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of the role that citizens can play in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.

76. Recognizing that witnesses of crime, whistle-blowers and judges are often intimidated and physically threatened or even murdered, the Meeting recommended the enhancement of witness protection programmes, as appropriate, as a measure to encourage them to comply with their duty to report, thus also improving the effectiveness of the fight against corruption and organized crime while promoting the participation of the public in the criminal justice system.

77. The Meeting urged Member States to promote the adoption and, in his case, the strengthening of, innovative programs for management of social conflict through mechanisms of community participation oriented to the rebuilding of neighbourhood relationships and the prevention of violence and crime.

78. The Meeting recommended:

- Fostering and encouraging among States the analysis, review, establishment and reform of laws that imposed penalties of incarceration, bearing in mind the situations of vulnerability and social risk of women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons from indigenous groups, persons of African descent, minors and adolescents, through a cross-cutting approach;
- Fostering and encouraging among States legal reforms with a gender perspective aimed at the reduction of custodial sentences for, among others, crimes involving the smuggling of drugs into penal institutions by women in situations of vulnerability and social risk, including women in extreme poverty, with children who are minors, with elderly dependants, with disabled dependants or who are victims of domestic violence, coercion or threats, when such situations have played a decisive role in the commission of the illicit act;
- Fostering and encouraging among States alternatives to imprisonment as a strategy to deal with the problems of overcrowding in penitentiary systems, through the establishment of different forms of custody that allow penalties and sentences to be controlled and monitored;
- Fostering and encouraging among States respect for the rights of the incarcerated population, and their access to those rights, in particular with regard to sexual diversity;
- Allotting the necessary budgetary resources to penitentiary systems so that prison sentences are carried out in facilities that address and attend to the specific needs of the populations involved, with respect to the human rights of both those incarcerated and the penitentiary staff;
- Fostering among States the establishment of other penalties as alternatives to imprisonment, such as house arrest and the wearing of electronic surveillance devices, bearing in mind the situations of vulnerable women, the elderly, persons belonging to indigenous groups and disabled persons;
- Fostering the rational use of preventive imprisonment in strict adherence to the principle of proportionality as a factor limiting the punitive power of the State;

- Fostering the implementation of information systems that make it possible to obtain qualitative and quantitative data for States to develop crime policies;

- Fostering the implementation of information systems that make it possible to obtain qualitative and quantitative data for States to develop crime policies;

- Promoting the utilization of programmes of restorative justice throughout the judicial process – in investigations, in the judicial determination of penalties and application of sanctions – in which the perpetrator, the victims and the community (understood as family, group or institutional sources of support) devise agreements with civil society support networks in order to repair the damage done to the victim by appropriate alternative means, thus reducing recidivism and costs;

- Standardizing at the regional level the criterion for limits on the reasonable duration of preventive imprisonment, in order that jurisdictional authorities are not able to continually and without limits extend the imprisonment of persons who have been incarcerated without being convicted;

- Fulfilling the resolutions of the Organization of American States with regard to the strengthening of public defenders' offices and the broadening of their purview to include comprehensive support for groups in situations of vulnerability, and fostering a regional policy of care for victims of family or domestic violence through the provision of cost-free legal assistance by public defenders;

- Establishing national observatories to record cases of violent death caused by firearms to make it possible to obtain reliable data contributing to the formulation of regional policies for addressing, preventing and reducing armed violence.

78 bis. Finally, the Meeting recommended the following:

- The Thirteenth Congress, in its discussions, should give priority to the consideration of crime prevention as a key component of strategies for tackling crime based on programmes for social and economic inclusion that could reduce social inequality, hunger and poverty, in particular among the most vulnerable groups, including young people, children, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and groups of African descent;

- Consideration should be given to the need for those crime prevention programmes to be supported by financial resources, to be provided foremost by States, and for the periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the actions and programmes undertaken in the area of crime prevention, in order to lay the foundation for the exchange of information on good practices, on the basis of the analysis of reliable and comparable data. It was also suggested that national bodies for statistics should be involved in establishing or strengthening the methods used for the development of indicators and statistical information in that respect;

- Consideration should also be given to the need to promote the adoption and, where appropriate, the strengthening of innovative programmes for the management of social conflict through mechanisms for community

participation aimed at restoring relationships among neighbourhood residents and the prevention of violence and crime.

**Workshop 4. Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned**

79. The Meeting recommended the following:

- A discussion should be undertaken with a view to moving beyond fragmented models of justice to promote a comprehensive model of justice supported by interdisciplinary teams and with the participation of civil society;
- There should be promotion and enhancement of alternative forms of justice under sustained judicial supervision that give a central role to community participation, with the goal of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the work performed by the courts;
- Discussion of the structural reforms required so that criminal justice systems could find comprehensive responses to problems of citizen security, such as domestic violence, should be promoted and enhanced.

80. The Meeting also recommended that Member States recognize and assess the role of traditional and new media in the development of policies and programmes to strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice and, in this connection, Member States were encouraged to share best practices and exchange information on public-private partnerships in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as the fundamental role of education and youth participation.

81. The Meeting emphasized the importance of developing rule of law and human rights educational training programmes and recommended that Member States continue to promote and strengthen such programmes both to increase public awareness and to ensure full confidence and trust in the supremacy of the law and the fair administration of justice.

## B. Other issues

82. The representative from Brazil recalled the Salvador Declaration, which was adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Brazil in 2010, and stressed that this Declaration gave a great impetus to the discussion on effective policies in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The representative from Brazil also highlighted that the Salvador Declaration made specific reference to the necessity of respecting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the prevention of crime and the administration of, and access to, criminal justice; and that the Declaration further recognized the centrality of crime prevention and the criminal justice system to the rule of law and that long-term sustainable development and the establishment of a functioning and humane criminal justice system have a positive influence on each other.

83. The observer of Qatar, the host country of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, gave a presentation on the state of progress of all actions required for the timely and efficient preparations

for the Congress. In particular, he illustrated the web page dedicated to the Thirteenth Congress, which was launched by the Prime Minister of Qatar in early February 2014.

84. The representative from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) made a brief presentation of the UNDP Regional Human Development Report for the period 2013-2014 on "Citizen Security with a Human Face: Evidence and Proposals for Latin America". The report offers a regional view of citizen security for the 18 countries in continental Latin America and the Dominican Republic. The report excludes English-speaking Caribbean countries because their situation was analysed in the 2012 UNDP Human Development Report on the shift to better citizen security. The basic conclusion of the report is that there is no single magic formula to solve the problem, but insecurity can be remedied. The experiences and lessons learned in the Latin American region should be taken into account to address related challenges and security policies need to be evaluated periodically in terms of their effectiveness and impact.

85. The representative from the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control presented the provisions and monitoring system of the Convention and of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products. The Framework Convention was adopted in 2003 and is in force since 27 February 2005. The Protocol builds upon and complements article 15 of the Framework Convention, which addresses means of countering illicit trade in tobacco products.

86. The Director of Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD)/Comite Permanente para America Latina, referred to programmes for social inclusion and reduction of poverty in the region which had a positive effect on the reduction of crime. He supported the continuation of joint training activities for practitioners from different sectors of the criminal justice system, the police and the penitentiary system, to be conducted in parallel with programmes on social reintegration of offenders.

# III. Attendance and organization of work

## A. Date and venue of the Meeting

87. The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in San José from 19 to 21 February 2014.

## B. Attendance

88. The following member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean were represented at the Meeting: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

89. Qatar was represented by observers at the Meeting.

90. The following United Nations entities were represented by observers: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

91. The following institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network were represented by observers: Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD)/Comite Permanente para America Latina, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy (ICCLR), International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC), The Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

92. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American Countries, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Organization of American States (OAS), WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

93. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented by observers: American Society of International Law (ASIL), Intercambios, International Society for Criminology (ISC), Sociedad Mexicana de Criminologia, World Society of Victimology (WSV).

94. A list of participants was circulated at the Meeting as A/CONF.222/RPM.3/INF/2.

## C. Opening of the Meeting

95. The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was opened on 19 February 2014 by H.E. Mrs. Ana Isabel Garita, Minister of Justice and Peace of Costa Rica. Opening statements were made by H.E. Mrs. Ana Isabel Garita, Minister of Justice and Peace of Costa Rica, and the Secretary of the Regional Preparatory Meeting.

96. H.E. Mrs. Ana Isabel Garita, Minister of Justice and Peace of Costa Rica welcomed the participants and stressed that its high attendance demonstrated the commitment of the countries in the region to strive for strengthening the administration of justice and promoting the rule of law. The Minister referred to the history of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice highlighting their major contribution to international standard-setting and policymaking in crime prevention and criminal justice. She referred to national policies to prevent crime and promote social inclusion and stressed the components of such policies which are geared towards protecting children and youth, preventing crime through communication campaigns, promoting restorative justice and strengthening the capacity of local government. She further underlined the active participation of Costa Rica in regional and subregional schemes and arrangements of international cooperation in criminal matters. The Minister also stressed the negative impact of such new and emerging forms of crime as cybercrime and crimes targeting the privacy and personal data of citizens, as well as crimes occurring at higher rates such as homicide and femicide. Finally, the Minister viewed the preparatory phase of the Thirteenth Congress and the Congress itself as an

opportunity for the international community to study the impact of the excessive use of detention of offenders on prison overcrowding.

97. In his opening remarks, the representative of UNODC, speaking on behalf of the Executive Director, stressed that the international community is increasingly focusing on the post-2015 development agenda, and that internationally there is a growing realization that weak rule of law and transnational crime are major threats to social and economic development and challenge States' ability to register progress in attaining the Millennium Development Goals. In this framework it was highlighted that while development planning and thinking has traditionally focused mainly on economic and employment indicators, environment, health and education, the more recent years have witnessed a shift with an increased recognition that rule of law is both an outcome and enabler of development.

98. Reference was made to the global volume of the annual money flow from transnational organized crime, estimated around US$ 870 billion, and to the fact that the positive forces of globalization and integration are constantly exploited by criminal groups to increase illicit activity.

99. In concluding, the speaker recalled the role historically played by the United Nations Crime Congresses in driving discussion around current challenges as well as giving States an opportunity to debate international standards and policy in crime prevention and criminal justice. In this perspective, he underlined how the Thirteenth Congress and its Regional Preparatory Meetings would provide a unique opportunity for Member States to actively contribute to the post-2015 development agenda as well as to discuss comprehensive and balanced measures that will prevent and respond to new and emerging forms of crime and criminal justice challenges.

100. The Secretary of the Regional Preparatory Meeting made a brief overview of the substantive preparations for the Congress and the work of the first two Regional Preparatory Meetings in the Asia and Pacific and Western Asian regions respectively. He recalled how the theme of the Thirteenth Crime Congress, its agenda items and workshops had been carefully identified and adopted by the General Assembly with a view to mainstreaming the work and deliberations of the Congress, the only global conference on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, into the overall United Nations development agenda and post-2015 deliberations. In this regard, he highlighted how the Congress theme, its substantive items and workshops were closely interconnected so as to feed each other in an upstream-downstream relationship. With a view to reflecting this close connection between the substantive items and the topics of the workshops, it was proposed to cluster the discussion as follows:

(a) Substantive item 3 ("Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development") was discussed together with workshop 1 ("Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders");

(b) Substantive item 4 ("International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime") was discussed together with

workshop 2 ("Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims);

(c) Substantive item 5 ("Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime") was discussed together with workshop 3 ("Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation");

(d) Substantive item 6 ("National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice") was discussed with workshop 4 ("Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned").

## D. Election of officers

101. At its 1st meeting, on 19 February 2014, the Meeting elected, by acclamation, the following officers:

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|---|---|
| *Chairperson:* | H.E. Mrs. Ana Isabel Garita, Minister of Justice and Peace (Costa Rica) |
| *Vice-Chairpersons:* | H.E. Mr. Carlos Romero Bonifaz, Ministro de Gobierno, (Plurinational State of Bolivia); and Elias Rafful Vadillo, Titular del Centro Nacional de Prevención del Delito y Participación Ciudadana (Mexico) |
| *Rapporteur:* | H.E. Mr. Edward Belfort, Minister of Justice and Police (Suriname) |

## E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

102. Also at its 1st meeting, the Meeting adopted its provisional agenda (A/CONF.222//RPM.3/L.1), which read as follows:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Substantive items on the agenda of the Thirteenth Congress:
   (a) Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development;
   (b) International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime;
   (c) Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime;

(d) National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.

5. Topics to be considered by workshops within the framework of the Thirteenth Congress:

(a) Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders;

(b) Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims;

(c) Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation;

(d) Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned.

6. Recommendations for the Thirteenth Congress.

7. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.

103. At the same meeting, the Meeting approved its organization of work. The list of documents before the Meeting is contained in annex II.

## IV. Adoption of the report and closure of the Meeting

104. At its 6th meeting, on 21 February 2014, the Meeting considered and adopted its report (A/CONF.222/RPM.3/L.2), [as orally amended].

# Annex I

## List of documents

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| A/CONF.222/PM.1 | Discussion guide |
| A/CONF.222/RPM.3/L.1 | Provisional agenda and annotations |
| A/CONF.222/RPM.3/L.2 | Draft report |
| A/CONF.222/PM/CRP.1 | TST Issues Brief: Conflict Prevention, Post-conflict Peacebuilding and the Promotion of Durable Peace, Rule of Law and Governance |
| A/CONF.222/PM/CRP.2 | Accounting for Security and Justice in the Post-2015 Development Agenda |